

D-1470

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SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Special C.B. S. B. REG. Station,

Vol. S. B. D. 1470.  
Date July 28, 1930.  
ate 31-7-30.

Subject (in full) O.N. Kohnert.

Made by D.S. Faddeeff.

Forwarded by Whuncan D.S.

Sir,

With reference to attached, a confidential interview with Mr. O.N. Kohnert was obtained and he volunteered the following information regarding the closing of the Vladivostok branch of "Kunst & Albers."

There are two firms named "Kunst & Albers" and two brothers, (1) Gustav and (2) Alfred Albers, are the owners.

Gustav is a German subject and is the proprietor of branches of above firm in Hamburg, Harbin and Shanghai, while Alfred Albers is a Soviet subject and is the proprietor of branches in Vladivostok, Nikolsk-Ussurriysk, Habarovsk and Nikolaevsk-on Amur (Soviet Russia). Both of them reside in Hamburg, and since 1922 they have been acting separately and there has been no connection between the branches of the two brothers, therefore Mr. K. Chaefer the Manager of the local branch of "Kunst & Albers" can say nothing about the sealing of the branch in Vladivostok and other branches in Soviet Russia.

The branches belonging to Alfred Albers in Vladivostok, Nikolaevsk-on Amur, Nikolsk-Ussurriysk and Habarovsk were conducting their business under the control of "Finotdel" (Financial Department of Soviet Authorities) and in January 1925, all their premises were taken over (nationalised) by the Soviet Government. The owner was then allowed to occupy the premises for a certain rent. In June 1930 the Control Committee of "Finotdel" visited the Vladivostok branch of "Kunst & Albers" with a view to checking the work of the business and they found many discrepancies in their accounts. In the end of June the firm received a demand for the sum of 1,383,888.01 roubles for Government contributions for the past

# SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
S.B. D. 1570.

## REPORT

Station, \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_

Subject (in full) \_\_\_\_\_

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Made by \_\_\_\_\_

Forwarded by \_\_\_\_\_

three years. The firm was unable to pay therefore "Finotdel" liquidated all four branches according to cost price as under:-

Vladivostok Branch.....	Roubles 600,000.00
Nikolsk-Ussurriysk Branch.....	" 100,000.00
Nikolaevsk-on Amur Branch.....	" 70,000.00
Habarovsk Branch.....	" 92,000.00
Total value	" 862,000.00

It is believed that "Kunst & Albers" were expecting such measures on the part of Soviet Authorities and did not keep in stock a large quantity of goods. All goods were distributed between the Daltorg (Far East Trade Mission) and the Central Labourers Co-operative.

The 127 employees of the firm were paid off by the "Finotdel" and given three months wages in lieu of notice.

Mr. O.N. Kohnert arrived in Shanghai by s.s. "Witell" (Nord German Lloyd). He hopes to get employment in the local branch of "Kunst & Albers."

*G. S. Fadduff*  
G. S.

D. C.

(C. & S. Branches)

*S.B. (C. and S. Branches)  
Information.*

*Mr. S. may be interested  
R. L. [unclear]  
[unclear]  
[unclear]  
90: 7: 30*

*90: 7: 30*

Memorandum.

POLICE FORCE,  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Shanghai,

23:7: 1930.

To

S2,

Please endeavor  
to verify the  
portion of the report  
at A.

Would not  
Kunst and Albers  
be willing to let  
us know confidentially  
what has happened  
in Vladivostok?

WJ

## SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE  
Special Branch REG. STATION

## REPORT

No. S. B. D. 1470  
Date July 22, 1930  
ate 23-7-30Subject (in full) Mr. O.N. Kohnert.Made by D.S. Faddeeff.Forwarded by Whelan C.S.

Information has been received from reliable sources that Mr. O.N. Kohnert, Manager of the Vladivostok branch of the well known firm "Kunst & Albers," fled from Vladivostok with his wife on board a German ship and landed at Woosung on 19-7-30. He is residing at No. 11 Lorton Terrace off Rue Lorton, French Concession. According to information received the Vladivostok branch of "Kunst & Albers" was sealed by the Soviet Authorities for non payment of contributions in the sum of 1,385,000.00 Roubles, and Mr. O.N. Kohnert being Manager of above firm was expecting to be arrested in connection with the case. It is believed that Mr. Kohnert and his wife were placing on board ship with the assistance of the German Consul in Vladivostok. Mr. O.N. Kohnert is a native of Germany, but before the Great War he became a naturalized Russian subject. It is his intention to regain his German nationality if possible.

The firm of "Kunst & Albers" have a branch at No. 29 Szechuen Road.

*D. S.*

D. C.

(C. &amp; S. Branches)

*D. S. (C. and S. Brs.)*

*Information. Efforts will be made to verify the problem of the report at A. From of return*

*22-7-30*